

32. NOTES ON SOME NON-INDIGENOUS PLANTS FROM ANDAMANS

While working on the Flora of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, we have come across three weed species from South Andaman. A perusal of literature and herbarium specimens at Port Blair revealed that these taxa grow sporadically in South Andaman and their occurrence on the Islands has not been reported. The present note on the occurrence of these non-indigenous plants would call the attention of Botanists and Horticulturists, before they spread rapidly and get naturalised in the Islands. Since these weeds were not mentioned by the earlier workers (Prain, 1891; Dagar et al 1991; Vasudeva Rao, M.K., 1986) the same are described here. The specimens have been deposited in the herbarium of the Botanical Survey of India, Andaman and Nicobar Circle, Port Blair.

Corchorus aestuans L. Syst. Nat. ed. 10. 1079. 1759. *C. acutangulus* Lam. Encycl. 2:104. 1786; Wight, Ic. t. 739. 1844; Mast. in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 1: 398. 1874. 'Hade-ka-khat' (Hindi) (TILIACEAE)

Glabrous annual herbs, 40-75 cm high. Leaves 2-6 x 1.5-5.0 cm, ovate or ovate-lanceolate, serrate.

Fl. & Fr.: August - October.

Specimens Examined: SOUTH ANDAMAN: Long Island, 22.x.1994 P.V. Sreekumar 16461.

Cuscuta chinensis Lam. Encycl. Meth. Bot. 2: 229. 1786; Wight, Ic. 4(2): 14. t. 1373. 1848; Clarke in Hook. f. Fl. Brit. India 4: 226. 1883 'Amarbel, Akashbel' (Hindi) - (CUSCUTACEAE).

Leafless stem-parasites, with yellow, filiform, twining, much-branched stems forming tangled mass.

Fl. & Fr.: August - November.

Specimen examined: SOUTH ANDAMAN: Port Blair, Horticulture road, near the Mushroom Centre. 5.v.1995 Marcel Tigga & P.V. Sreekumar 18144.

Hosts: We have noted this plant on the

following host: *Mikania cordata* (Burm. f.)Robins; *Barleria prionitis* L., *Paederia scandens* (Lour.) Merr., *Chromolaena odorata* (L.) King and Robins., *Ipomoea sepiaria* Koen. ex Roxb.

Polygala arvensis Willd. Sp. Pl. 3: 876. 1802; Banerjee in Fl. India 2: 460. t. 87. 1993; Burt in Notes Roy. Bot. Gard. Edinburgh 32: 404. 1973. *P. chinensis* auct. non L. 1753; Bennett in Hook. f. Fl. Brit. India 1: 204. 1872 p.p. (POLYGALACEAE).

Hindi: Maradu, Kon: Negli, Mar: Phutan, San: Gaighura.

Herbs, 5-30 (-40) cm high, branches arising from base. Leaves sessile, orbicular, obovate, oblanceolate to oblong, narrowed towards base, subacute, obtuse or emarginate and mucronate at apex, 10-40 (-50) x 5-20 mm, glabrous to densely pubescent or hirsute; petioles upto 3 mm long. Flowers c 4 mm long, purplish-white and pink-streaked, solitary or in 3-15 flowered racemes.

Specimen examined: SOUTH ANDAMAN: Port Blair, Gandhi Park, 18.vi.1995 P.V. Sreekumar 18148.

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33. FLOWERING BEHAVIOUR OF MANGO (*MANGIFERA INDICA*) IN ANDAMANS

The typical humid tropical climate of Andaman and Nicobar Islands (native of two rare

species of mango: *Mangifera andamanica* and *Mangifera nicobarica*. Parkinson 1972; Kostermans